

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1490 - HB 1360

March 20, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the course of instruction in all public institutions of higher education to include an integrated international studies component. Students who graduate with a diploma from a college or university on or after July 1, 2009, must have completed an integrated coursework component of eight courses.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$18,238,300

Assumptions:

- A number of the classes which would be classified as “international studies” under this bill are already being taken by many university students.
- UT and TBR systems indicated that under the provisions of the bill, all students would be required to increase the number of hours required for their graduation.
- For purposes of this estimate, one additional course per student would be required in order to meet graduation/credit hour limits. For example, if a student now needs 120 hours, they would need at least 123 hours under these new requirements, and some students would require even more hours depending upon their course of study.
- The additional classes are based on an average class size of 25 students.
- The addition of new faculty is based on a 10-course equivalent per year.
- The average salary for a new faculty member including benefits is \$67,300.
- Increased costs to UT based on the addition of 409 new classes and 41 new faculty members are estimated to be \$2,759,300. (41 faculty x \$67,300)
- Increased costs to TBR based on the addition of 2,300 new classes and 230 new faculty members are estimated to be \$15,479,000. (230 x \$67,300)
- Total increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$18,238,300.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "W".

James W. White, Executive Director